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COUNTRY POLAND CONFIDENTIALREPORT NO. TOPIC Troops and Military Installations in Lodz *MJ 230*25X1X
EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT prior to January 1951

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DATE PREPARED 6 July 1951

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REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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1. In January 1951, a high-echelon military headquarters, which was, according to Poles, an infantry division headquarters, was located in the barracks installation on ul. Sw. Jozefa, Lodz, in the wing facing the street. Officers were constantly seen wearing tailor-made khaki uniforms and generally breeches and riding boots. They also were occasionally seen with caps with red bands. An officer wearing wide red stripes on his trousers and a cap with a golden cord and a golden visor emblem, who was, according to the Poles, a general and the commanding officer of the headquarters, was observed three times. Articles of clothing were stored on the third floor of the building and ordnance supplies on the fourth floor. (1) A guard unit was located in the northern wing of the barracks installation. No training was observed in the barracks area. An officer candidate school of about 150 trainees was located in the southern wing of the barracks installation, which fronted ul. 11-go Listopada. The trainees, who allegedly were officer candidates of the Polish Army holding the rank of staff sergeant, lived in billets located on the corner of ul. 11-go Listopada and ul. Mst. Pogonowskiego. They received theoretical instruction and were occasionally observed marching out of the installation in the afternoon, carrying rifles, machine guns, and practice targets. The trainees wore well-cut khaki uniforms with stand-up collars, red-white-bordered black epaulets with silver metal letters, and service caps with red bands and silver stripes or chevrons, about 3 mm wide, above the Polish eagle. (2)

2. A Polish infantry battalion of about 600 men was located in the barracks installation at the corner of ul. 11-go Listopada and ul. Mst. Pogonowskiego. According to Poles, the battalion consisted of three rifle companies and one machine gun company. Two rifle companies and two platoons were once observed marching out of the installation, with a considerable number of troops remaining in the barracks.

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The troops were about 21 years old, wore khaki Polish Army uniforms with triangular red and blue collar patches, and carried submachine guns, rifles, and machine guns. Horse-drawn vehicles were occasionally observed in the installation, and some garages were located in the barracks yard. Heavy Maxim machine guns and mortars were also observed [redacted]

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3. Prior to January 1951, a military court was in the corner building bounded by ul. 11-go Listopada on the south and ul. Gen. Zeligowskiego on the west. A sign read "Military Court for the Lodz District".

4. In January 1951, the barracks building bounded by ul. Gen. Zeligowskiego on its long west side and Al. 11-go Naja on its narrow side was, except for the southern section, badly damaged. Small detachments carrying practice targets were frequently observed marching out of the building to the barracks installation at the corner of ul. 11-go Listopada and ul. Kpt. Pogonowskiego. Reconstruction was started on this barracks installation in early 1951 and it was occupied by an infantry unit. (3)

5. A Polish artillery battalion was located in a barracks installation south of 9-go Naja Square, formerly Haller Platz, in late 1950 and early 1951. The unit was equipped with 16 guns of about 150-mm, 12 of which were drawn by teams of six horses and the other four parked in the barracks yard.

6. In the summer of 1950, a barracks installation of eight or nine three-story brick buildings with their narrow sides facing ul. Szczecinska on the west was in the woodland about 2 km south of the Zgierz (Q 52/0 94) railroad station. The buildings were not directly along the street, but were set back among the trees. The installation was constructed in 1936 and 1937 and, [redacted] quartered Polish troops in late 1950 and early 1951. [redacted] an ammunition factory was located about 500 meters northwest of the barracks installation on the boundary between Lodz and Zgierz. [redacted] low buildings dispersed in the terrain there in the summer of 1950.

7. The enlisted men of a transport unit were billeted in the former German-Polish high school on ul. Narutowicza in late 1950 and early 1951. About 100 motor vehicles, mostly Studebaker and ZIS trucks [redacted] were in newly constructed garages in the courtyard.

8. In the spring of 1950, Polish troops were observed in an angular building bounded by ul. Węglowa on the south, the square north of the Lodz-Fabryczna railroad station on the southeast, and ul. Składowa on the north. The building was said to have been formerly an old artillery barracks. (4)

9. A military installation of about 15 low wooden barracks buildings, generally referred to as officer candidate school in April 1950 and, according to the Poles, commanded by a colonel, was located on the south side of ul. Napiorkowskiego. Its east side was toward the railroad line between the Widzew and Chojny stations. In the spring of 1950, about 250 officer candidates holding the rank of staff sergeant and carrying infantry weapons were observed east of the cemetery at the end of ul. Napiorkowskiego. They were engaged in infantry combat training in a system of improved positions. They wore khaki uniforms with patches on the stand-up collars and visor-type service caps with blue bands. (5)

10. In August 1950, a barracks installation was located on the east side of ul. Natajki and bounded by ul. Mariana Nowotni, ul. Tarka and ul. Lubeckiego. (6)

11. The UB (Security Police) Headquarters for the city of Lodz was located on both sides of ul. 19-go Stycznia in January 1951. The installation included an administrative building on the west side of the street and a smaller brick

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building serving as a guardhouse on the east side of the street. The municipal prison, at whose entrance sentries wearing grayish-green uniforms and carrying rifles stood guard, was located west of the main building, on the east side of ul. Dr. Sterlinga. A senior lieutenant, [redacted] in the administration building in December 1950, wore a grayish-green uniform with triangular red patches on the stand-up collar and a visor-type service cap with a red band.

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25X1 12. [redacted] one General Moczw, (fmu), (phonetic spelling) was in charge of a UB headquarters and a UB school in Lodz.

13. In early 1951, the MO (Militia) general headquarters was in a large four-story square building with a courtyard on the south side of ul. St. Jaracza.

14. In January 1951, a school, referred to as the MO school and also as the MO training center, was on the east side of ul. Piotrkowska. The installation, at which two MO companies [redacted] consisted of a four-story brick building, about 50 meters long, in the built-up area bounded by ul. Bisk. Tymienieckiego on the south and ul. Brzezne on the north. (?)

15. Except for an office of the Soviet security service on ul. Krolewska, no Soviet units or agencies were located in or around Lodz prior to January 1951.

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Comments.

(1) Several previous reports stated that a headquarters, which was also referred to as that of an infantry regiment and as the military west headquarters, was located in this barracks installation. [redacted] It is possible that an infantry regimental headquarters and a division headquarters may be located there. The latter may be the Hq 8th Inf Div, which was last identified in Lodz in 1949.

(2) This school was previously referred to as a senior officers' school for political education in August 1949. The school is in the south wing of the barracks installation at ul. Sw. Jerzego and in the barracks at the intersection of ul. 11-go Listopada and Kpt. Pogorowskiego. It is therefore believed that the majority of the trainees were officers rather than officer candidates.

(3) There were discrepancies in previous reports on the location of the barracks installation. [redacted] The installation is occupied by elements of the infantry regiment stationed in Lodz.

(4) A previous, confirmed report stated that a military motor vehicle park and a motor vehicle repair shop were located in this installation.

(5) A previous report on this school is confirmed. [redacted] The blue cap band is indicative of a KGW (Internal Security) installation. The reference report, however, mentioned infantry officer candidates wearing red cap bands.

(6) A KGW battalion is located in the barracks installation. [redacted]

(7) According to a previous report, MO officer candidates and political officers were trained at this school. [redacted]

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